



Appl. No. 10/529,568
Amdt. Dated May 1, 2007
Mailed: February 1, 2007

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP 3721**

Atty. Docket No. 2862
(203-3506PCTUS)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT(S): Frank J. Viola EXAMINER: Michelle Lopez
SERIAL NO.: 10/529,568 GROUP: 3721
FILED: March 28, 2005 DATED: May 1, 2007
FOR: **TOOL ASSEMBLY FOR SURGICAL STAPLING DEVICE**

Mail Stop: AF
Honorable Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the final Office Action mailed February 1, 2007, please amend this application as follows:

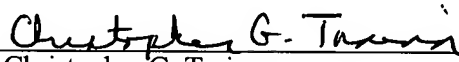
Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 9 of this paper.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postpaid in an envelope, addressed to the: Mail Stop: AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on May 1, 2007.

Dated: May 1, 2007


Christopher G. Trainor